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This is the last issue of
2009!! The A&T
Register will be back on Jan.
13, 2010. Have a happy and
safe holiday season!

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The fourth Annual Reggies Honoring the best of 2009 Page 8

THE A&T REGISTER

FREE | VOLUME LXXXII, NO. 14

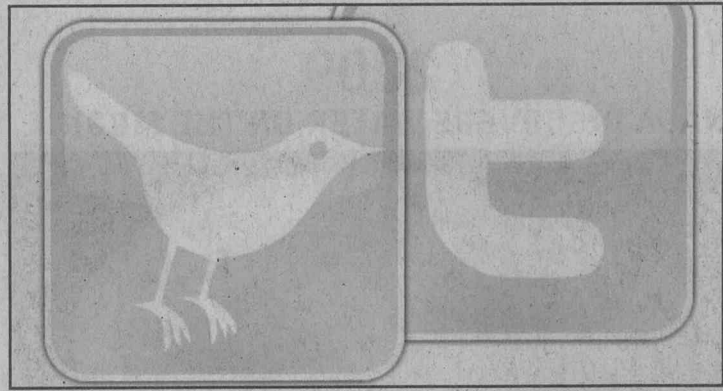
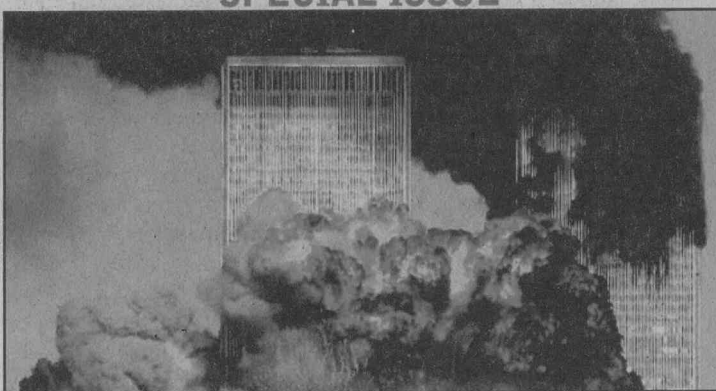
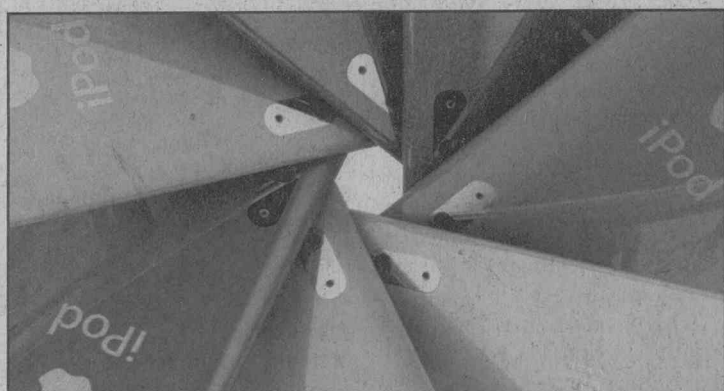
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DECEMBER 2, 2009 | WEDNESDAY

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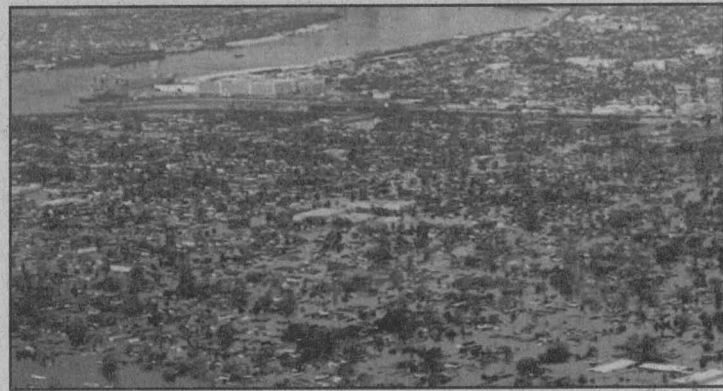
SPECIAL ISSUE



THE END OF A ²⁰⁰⁹ ²⁰⁰⁵ ²⁰⁰⁶ ²⁰⁰⁸ ²⁰⁰³ ²⁰⁰⁴ ²⁰⁰² ²⁰⁰¹ ²⁰⁰⁰ ²⁰⁰⁷ Decade

2009 brings to a close one of the most active decades in recent history

The Register looks back at the decade and highlights the most memorable moments **Page 2**



Senate votes not to impeach Attorney General

Attorney General Daniel Davis faced the Senate last night on charges of Student Government fund embezzling



PHOTO BY DEXTER MULLINS - THE A&T REGISTER

DEXTER R. MULLINS
Editor In Chief

In a special session of the Student Government Association Senate last night, at approximately 7:30 p.m. in room 312 Martena Hall, the Senate began to deliberate over whether or not to impeach Attorney General Daniel Davis.

Davis, elected last spring, was accused of embezzling SGA funds to print up fliers for the Mu Psi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in the

month of October, just before homecoming. This is an offense which is punishable by North Carolina law, and is fewed as a felony.

Student fees are collected to fund the Student Government Association. Per this law, using the monies for any purpose other than official SGA business could be considered a violation, and since the SGA was not co-sponsoring the programs, this could be viewed as a misuse of funds.

The Register obtained copies

of documentation approximately three weeks prior which states that Davis authorized the use of a total of \$58 to print 115 fliers for two separate programs.

In a phone interview at the time of the receipt of the documents, Davis stated that he did not realize that he had done anything wrong, and thought he was just doing his job as attorney general to provide programs for students in regards to health and safety, which falls under his constitutional job description.

However, one of the fliers for

which monies were allegedly misused states that the program will focus around "money management," which is not a safety issue.

"Without permission I misappropriated funds and I understand that I was wrong in my course of action," Davis said to the Senate last night in a written statement.

"I want to apologize to my e-board the Jasmin Administration for not coming to them all

► See DAVIS on Page 2

ONLINE WE'VE GOT TWITTER

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theYARD GAY HIGH SCHOOL SHOOTING

Jury selection is beginning for a girl that killed her girlfriend in Florida.

PAGE 3

theWORD STEPS TO A BETTER WORLD

Dexter Mullins persuades Aggies to take steps to improve the campus environment.

PAGE 6

theSCORE AGGIES LOSE ON THE ROAD

The Aggies remained winless on the road in their 74-73 nailbiting loss to Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

PAGE 7

theSCENE THE ANNUAL REGGIE AWARDS

See what the Register staffers voted as the best of the year winners for numerous categories both on and off campus.

PAGE 8

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY

High: 61°
Low: 47°

THURSDAY: Sunny | High 74°

FRIDAY: Mostly Sunny | High 71°

THE END OF A *Decade*

In the last 10 years, a lot of things have changed. People can hardly remember a time when they didn't have to walk through metal detectors and take off their shoes at the airport thanks to September 11.

There was once a time when the city of New Orleans was a busy and congested place, but now over half of it looks like Hurricane Katrina struck just yesterday.

And for the first time, an African-American man is the leader of the modern free world we all know as America.

This decade has most certainly been one for the records, with companies like Apple redefining the way we live, all the way down to how we protect ourselves against new colds like H1N1. There is no way we could cover each moment, so here are some of the highlights:

2009

NASA DISCOVERS WATER ON THE MOON



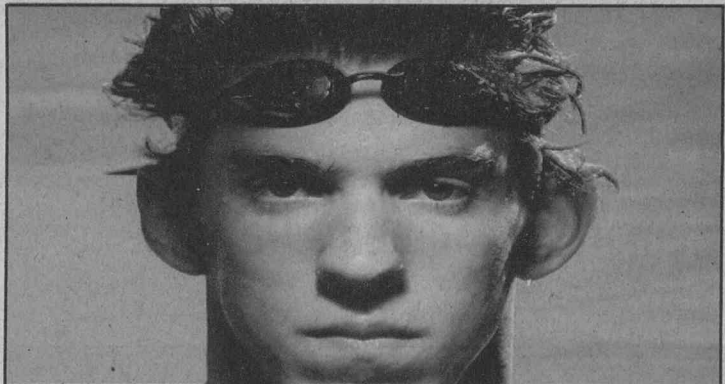
2007

APPLE RELEASES THE FIRST IPHONE



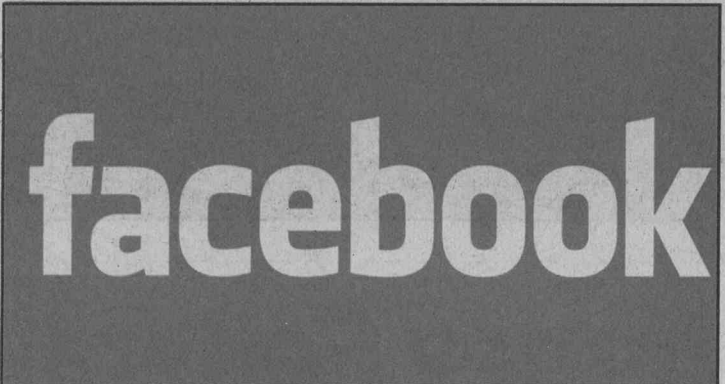
2004

MICHAEL PHELPS WINS THE OLYMPICS



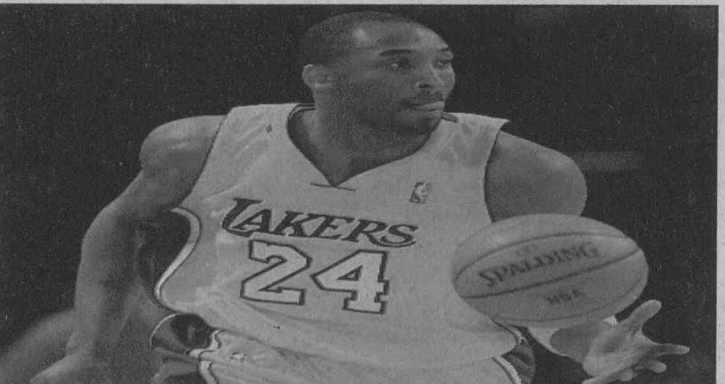
2003

FACEBOOK IS RELEASED AS A NEW SITE



2000

THE LAKERS WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP



Tell us what your favorite moments of the decade were
theatregister@gmail.com

Davis admits, apologizes for misuse of funds in special senate meeting

DAVIS From page 1

collectively as a board. Most importantly, I want to apologize to the students, if you feel that I, in anyway abused their trust I want to ask for their forgiveness one hundred fold."

Despite the fact that Davis openly admitted to the offenses against him, the Senate voted in a split decision not to impeach him.

According to the SGA Constitution, a two-thirds majority must be obtained in order to carry a successful vote to impeach someone, and that was not done.

District One College of Arts and Sciences Senator Augustine Joesph said that he agreed that the Senate should not have impeached Davis because he felt the evidence was not clear.

"To me it did not seem like he broke any codes of the student conduct or the constitution," Joesph said.

"I think that it has been a reoccurring issue with the Senate that we vote out of emotion.

This whole meeting to me was out of emotion. This could have easily waited un-

til we came back in January and everyone had time to sit down and concisely go through everything, and that wasn't done tonight. If you're looking at impeaching someone then that needs to be done."

While Joesph may have felt that the Senate tended to behave in a rash manner, not all of the senators agreed.

Senator Raymon Beaman, also a district one senator, was a member of the Ad Hoc Committee that brought the impeachment before the senate body. Beaman says that he thinks he failed the students by not turning over an impeachment charge last night.

"I failed in my part of not convincing my fellow senators of his criminal acts," Beaman said.

"A lot of people felt like the option to only impeach him or not to impeach him [Davis] was not a viable solution, that's why they didn't vote to impeach.

"At the matter at hand, the only thing in the constitution was impeachment. I feel like some were prepared to impeach, but more were concerned with 'what would happen if we don't have an Attorney General?'"

Davis had previously agreed to pay the monies back to the SGA, but said in written state-

ments to other SGA members obtained by the Register that he didn't think it would be appropriate to notify the Senate or Administration unless absolutely necessary as he felt this was an in house issue.

"I had the best intentions and I figured these programs fell under my duties as Attorney General so I just tried to help these organizations."

Davis also went on to say that he would issue a formal apology to the student body and that he will relinquish his privilege to use the purchase order account at the University Print and Graphics business without prior consent.

Davis presented a copy of the receipt, showing that he had in fact repaid the monies removed prior to the meeting as he stated he would.

The Senate closed the session to deliberate for around two hours after hearing from Davis and making the decision to not impeach.

"I'm elated," Davis said. "I feel like a burden has been lifted and a weight has been moved.

"I'm just so grateful and so apologetic that this is going to be motivation for me to do an even better job.

"I acknowledge that this was a mistake and it will not happen

We're taking our annual holiday break, but we will
be back in action on Jan.13
Have a safe break!!!!

KEM

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events

WEDNESDAY

2

Clothing Drive
Memorial Student Union & Williams Cafeteria
Lobby
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

DEC Film Project Final Presentation
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Senior Week
General Classroom Building
A218 Auditorium
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Jam-Caribbean Aggie Club
Memorial Student Union
Union Commuter Lounge
8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

THURSDAY

3

COE Toastmasters Meeting
McNair Hall
Faculty Lounge
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

ASME General Body Meeting
McNair Hall
Room LR2
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Senior Week: Battle of the Sexes
Webb Hall
Auditorium
7 p.m.

FRIDAY

4

Last Day of Classes

Community Outreach Program- Boy Scouts
Campbell Hall
Room 126
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Founder's Day Program
General Classroom Building
A218 Auditorium
7:06

SATURDAY

22

Saturday Dance & Drumming Academy
Fitness Center & Wellness Center
8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

SUNDAY

23

University Band Banquet
Memorial Student Union
Stallings Ballroom
5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

MONDAY

THE A&T REGISTER

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THE A&T REGISTER is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semesters by students at North Carolina A&T State University. One copy is available free of charge to all readers. Additional copies may be picked up at the Register's newsroom (subject to availability). All subscription requests should be directed to the Business department. **THE A&T REGISTER** has a weekly circulation of 5,000 copies on-campus and in the community and is a member of The Associated Press, The Associated Collegiate Press and the Black College Wire.

OFF THE YARD

Damaged hearts may heal with adult stem cells

FRED TAKSER
MCT Campus

MIAMI - Adult stem cells might help repair hearts damaged by heart attack in part by becoming heart cells themselves.

That was the finding of a new study, released Monday, that points to a promising new treatment for heart-attack patients that could reduce mortality and lessen the need for heart transplants.

Adult stem cells also could help heal livers, kidneys, pancreases and other organs.

If confirmed by further trials, the new therapy could be in general use within five years, estimates Dr. Joshua Hare, a University of Miami cardiologist and lead author of the 10-university study.

"This clearly did help heal the human heart," Hare said.

Though the study only involved 53 patients, it's the first time adult stem cells have been

shown to help repair heart damage.

Previous heart-attack treatments, such as angioplasty, have restored blood flow, but did not heal heart tissue.

"This is a pretty big deal. Echocardiograms showed improved heart function, particularly in those patients with large amounts of cardiac damage," said Hare, who also is director of the UM Medical School's Interdisciplinary Stem Cell Institute.

"They also had improvements in lung function."

The study will appear in the Dec. 8 issue of the peer-reviewed Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Researchers say it's the strongest evidence so far that adult stem cells can actually differentiate, or turn into heart cells, to repair damage.

Until now, some researchers had believed only controversial embryonic stem cells could dif-

ferentiate into heart or other organ cells.

The study suggests adult stem cells derived from bone marrow are more flexible than previously thought.

"This is an exciting first step in a direction many thought cell therapy couldn't go," said Dr. Robert Simari, a cardiologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester who was not involved in the trial.

"It has demonstrated safety and good changes."

In the trial, 53 patients who had had heart attacks in the previous 10 days were injected with "mesenchymal," or adult stem cells, then kept under close study for six months.

The stem cells, injected into a vein in the arm or leg, automatically gravitated to the damaged heart, drawn by chemical signals from the injured cells, Hare said.

Other researchers are looking at whether the same injected

stem cells might be drawn to the liver, kidney or other organs if they are damaged.

Mesenchymal stem cells have the advantage that they can be taken from the bone marrow of an unrelated donor without needing to be matched by blood type.

In the future, Hare said, hospitals might keep stores of frozen stem cells on hand for speedy "off-the-shelf" use in treating heart attacks.

In earlier studies with other kinds of adult stem cells, the cells had to be drawn from the patient's own bone marrow, which would be done only after the heart attack.

Also, other kinds of adult stem cells had to be injected directly into the heart by a catheter via a slit in the groin, or applied during open-heart surgery, while mesenchymal stem cells can be injected into any appropriate vein in arm or leg.

In the current study, the

stem cells were extracted and purified and supplied by Osiris Therapeutics of Columbia, Md., which sponsored the study.

Patients who received the stem cells were compared to similar patients who received placebo injections. Both were followed by MRI and echocardiogram.

After six months, treated patients: Were four times as likely to have improved overall condition. Were able to pump more blood with each heartbeat than untreated patients. Had only one-quarter as many dangerous heart arrhythmias. Suffered no toxicity or other serious adverse side effects.

The way in which mesenchymal stem cells help repair a damaged heart is more complicated than the cells simply becoming heart cells, said Dr. Alan Heldman, a UM cardiologist who has worked on the project with Hare for 10 years at Johns Hopkins University and UM.

"The stem cells take part in the growth of new blood vessels to bring more oxygen to the heart. They help modulate the scarring from the heart attack. They fight inflammation. There's a lot going on," he said.

Hoping to speed the new stem-cell therapy into general use, UM researchers already are enrolling patients for the next phase of the trial.

In it, 220 patients will be treated at hospitals and universities in a dozen or more cities, Heldman said.

It should take less than two years. FDA approval of the procedure could clear it for general use within five years, Hare said. In an editorial accompanying the new study in the medical journal, cardiologist Dr. Marc Penn calls the study "an important step."

"There is excitement in what the future holds with regard to advances in this field," Penn writes.

Idaho sets stringent 'clean coal' rules for proposed plant

ROCKY BARKER
MCT Campus

BOISE, Idaho - The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality set a national precedent Monday when it issued a permit requiring a proposed Power County fertilizer plant to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 58 percent of what a comparable facility now emits.

The permit hashed out over several months among Southeast Idaho Energy, the state, the Sierra Club and the Idaho Conservation League was issued only days before negotiators from around the world arrive in Copenhagen, Denmark, to write a new treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide.

Southeast Idaho Energy's fa-

cility would turn coal into gas that would both produce nitrogen fertilizer and sulfur.

The deal gives the company an easier shot at raising money to build the plant by ensuring that environmental groups won't fight the permit in years of court battles.

And it gives groups like the Sierra Club which has opposed all new coal plants up to now and has been skeptical about the potential of "clean-coal" technology a chance to help set the national standard for carbon sequestration from coal plants.

The company plans to separate the carbon dioxide during the "gasification" process and ship it to Wyoming, where it would be pumped underground to ease the extraction of oil and

natural gas.

The technology to do all of this already exists, said John Burk, a Southeast Idaho Energy spokesman.

The challenge the company faces, he said, is economically transporting the carbon dioxide from the plant to the oil fields.

The company is looking at shipping by rail and perhaps building a pipeline that could allow it to capture economically even more carbon dioxide.

"Carbon capture and sequestration have always been a fundamental part of our overall business plan," said Ramesh Raman, Southeast Idaho Energy president.

DEQ had issued a permit in February but it was challenged by the Sierra Club and Conser-

vation League.

The environmental groups argued that the plant as permitted in February would have spewed, each year, 2.3 million tons of carbon dioxide a gas that scientists say traps heat in the atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

That would have been about twice the amount of carbon dioxide that would be released from a normal natural gas-fired fertilizer plant, said Andrea Issod, a Sierra Club staff attorney.

The environmental group decided to endorse this permit because of the company's willingness to put its own money behind its commitment to remove and sequester carbon dioxide, she said.

"Other companies are getting money from the federal government and making the ratepayers take the risk," Issod said. "Southeast Idaho is bearing the risk on their own."

The Environmental Protection Agency is in the middle of rulemaking to regulate carbon dioxide as a pollutant.

When that is done, the gas will be treated as other hazardous pollutants by the Clean Air Act, which requires companies to consider the "best available control" to prevent pollution.

That means that Southeast Idaho Energy's permit could become the standard that other new coal plants will have meet.

DEQ officials said they will not include greenhouse gas limits in future air-quality permits

until federal regulations have been finalized.

By agreeing to issue this permit, DEQ officials say they were helping the project move forward without environmental challenges.

"This permit is a win-win for the people of Idaho," said Justin Hayes, program director for the Idaho Conservation League.

Southeast Idaho Energy expects to hire up to 1,300 people during the construction of the \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion plant, which would employ about 150 permanent workers.

"Having a permit that is not contested will give us access to additional money so we can move the project along," said Burk.

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Jury selection begins in gay high school student shooting

TONYA ALANEZ
MCT Campus

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. - For five magical days, the two high school classmates exchanged hugs and tender "I love yous."

When one of the girls ended the chaste love affair, the other told police she was so devastated she pulled a gun in a hallway at Fort Lauderdale, Fla.'s Dillard High and shot the pretty aspiring dancer she loved.

Teah Wimberly, 16, now stands accused of second-degree murder for killing Amanda Collette, 15.

Charged as an adult, she faces the possibility of life in prison.

"I love her more than I love any human on earth," Wimberly tearfully told a police detective within an hour of the Nov. 12,

2008 slaying.

"I can't believe I hurt her."

On Monday, as potential jurors took a lunch break, Wimberly's defense attorney, Larry S. Davis, sought to keep her recorded remarks from reaching their ears.

"I didn't want to kill her," Wimberly told the police detective. "I wanted her to feel what she made me feel, the pain."

Davis says his juvenile client did not speak freely and voluntarily.

She wore shackles in a police interview room, was emotionally distraught over having shot Collette and had not been given an opportunity to speak to relatives before she waived her rights and implicated herself, Davis says.

Broward Circuit Judge John Murphy has not yet ruled on the defense's motion to suppress

Wimberly's statement.

In the 23-minute videotaped segment, Wimberly said she was gay, deeply in love with Collette and could not handle the peaks and valleys of her own emotions.

They exchanged no more than hugs and "I love you's" before Collette ended things for "no reason," Wimberly said.

"I can't get over it...it messed me up," Wimberly said. "It's like she hates me...It's like I made her skin crawl, and that hurt me to death."

Collette's parents Joyce Collette and Anthony Thompson clasped hands as they listened to Wimberly's account, which was played Monday so lawyers could argue the pros and cons of admitting it as evidence.

As Wimberly described being snubbed by Collette in the school hallway, taking a gun out

of her back pocket and shooting her friend once in the back, Joyce Collette dabbed at tears with a folded handkerchief. Jury selection will resume Tuesday.

Once a panel of six jurors and two alternates is sworn in, the trial is expected to take up to two weeks.

Davis will present an insanity defense, saying Wimberly's history of parental abandonment, sexual molestation and beatings culminated in tendencies of self-mutilation and suicidal thoughts.

The end result, Davis says, was mental illness. Meanwhile, Collette's parents say their emotional wounds are still fresh.

"We're just doing one day at a time," her father, Anthony Thompson, said as he left the courtroom.

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Troop increase planned for Afghanistan

ANNE GEAREN
AND JENNIFER LOVEN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Barack Obama plans to send 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan over six months, an accelerated timetable — with an endgame built in — that would have the first Marines there as early as Christmas, a senior administration official told The Associated Press.

With the full complement of new troops expected to be in Afghanistan by next summer, the heightened pace of Obama's military deployment in the 8-year-old war appears to mimic the 2007 troop surge in Iraq, a 20,000-strong force addition under former President George W. Bush.

Similar in strategy to that mission, Obama's Afghan surge aims to reverse gains by Taliban insurgents and to secure population centers in the volatile south and east parts of the country.

In a prime-time speech to the nation Tuesday night from West Point that ends a 92-day review, Obama will seek to help sell his much bigger, costlier war plan by tying the escalation to an exit strategy, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

By laying out a rough timeframe and some dates for when the main U.S. military mission would end, as well as emphasizing stepped-up training for

Afghan forces, the president was acknowledging the increasingly divided public opinion over continued American participation in the stalemated war.

"We want to — as quickly as possible — transition the security of the Afghan people over to those national security forces in Afghanistan," White House press secretary Robert Gibbs told ABC's "Good Morning America." "This can't be nation-building. It can't be an open-ended forever commitment."

With U.S. casualties in Afghanistan sharply increasing recently and little sign of progress, the war Obama once liked to call one "of necessity," not choice, has grown less popular with the public and within his own Democratic party.

In recent days, leading Democrats have talked of setting tough conditions on deeper U.S. military involvement, or even staging outright political opposition.

The displeasure on both sides of the aisle was likely to be on display when congressional hearings on Obama's strategy get under way later in the week on Capitol Hill.

In his speech and in meetings overseas in the coming days, Obama also will ask NATO allies to contribute more — between 5,000 and 10,000 new troops — to the separate international force in Afghanistan,

diplomats said.

One official from a European nation said the troop figure was included in an official NATO document compiled on the basis of information received from Washington ahead of Obama's announcement.

The NATO force in Afghanistan now stands at around 40,000 troops.

The 30,000 new U.S. troops will bring the total in Afghanistan to more than 100,000 U.S. forces by next summer. New infusions of U.S. Marines will begin moving into Afghanistan almost as soon as Obama announces a redrawn battle strategy.

The president's long-awaited troop increase had been envisioned to take place over a year, or even more, because force deployments in Iraq and elsewhere make it logistically difficult, if not impossible, to go faster.

But Obama directed his military planners to make the changes necessary to hasten the Afghanistan additions, said the official, who declined to be publicly identified because the formal announcement of details was still pending.

Officials were not specific on the withdrawal date that Obama has in mind nor the changes the military will be required to make to get the troop deployments into Afghanistan on the president's new, speedier timeline.

Military officials said at least

one group of Marines is expected to deploy within two or three weeks of Obama's announcement, and would be in Afghanistan by Christmas.

This initial infusion is a recognition by the administration that something tangible needs to happen quickly, military officials said.

The new Marines would provide badly needed reinforcements to those fighting against Taliban gains in the southern Helmand province. They also could lend reassurance to both Afghans and a war-weary U.S. public.

Obama's announcement comes near the end of a year in which the war has worsened despite the president's infusion of 21,000 forces earlier this year.

He began rolling out his decision Sunday night, informing key administration officials, military advisers and foreign allies in a series of private meetings and phone calls that stretched into Monday.

Previewing a narrative the president is likely to stress, Gibbs told ABC that the number of fresh troops don't tell the whole story. Obama will emphasize that Afghan security forces need more time, more schooling and more U.S. combat backup to be up to the job on their own.

"We're going to accelerate going after al-Qaida and its extremist allies," Gibbs said. "We'll accelerate the training

of an Afghan national security force, a police and an army."

In Kabul, Lt. Gen. William B. Caldwell, the new head of a U.S.-NATO command responsible for training and developing Afghan soldiers and police, said Tuesday that although the groundwork is being laid to expand the Afghan National Army beyond the current target of 134,000 troops, to be reached by Oct. 31, 2010, no fixed higher target is set.

There is a notional goal of eventually fielding 240,000 soldiers and 160,000 police, but Caldwell said that could change.

"Although that is a goal and where we think it could eventually go to, it's not a hard, firm, fixed number," he said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

He indicated that one reason for avoiding a hard-and-fast commitment to those higher numbers is the expected cost.

So his orders are to reach the targets of 134,000 soldiers and 96,800 police by next October. He intends to hold annual reviews, beginning next spring or early summer, to determine whether the notional higher targets of 240,000 soldiers and 160,000 police — for a combined total of 400,000 by 2013 — are still the right goals for Afghanistan.

"If you grow it up to 400,000 — if you did grow all the way to that number, and if it was

required to help bring greater security to this country — then of course you have to sustain it at that level, too, in terms of the cost of maintaining a force that size," he said.

Nearly all the cost of building Afghan forces has been borne by the U.S. and other countries thus far.

Obama also will make tougher demands on the governments of Pakistan and, especially, Afghanistan.

The Afghan government said Tuesday that President Hamid Karzai and Obama had an hour-long video conference. Obama was also going to speak with Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari.

In Afghanistan, rampant government corruption and inefficiency have made U.S. success much harder. Obama was expected to place tough conditions on Karzai's government.

Obama was spending much of Monday and Tuesday on the phone, outlining his plan — minus many specifics — for the leaders of France, Britain, Germany, Russia, China, India, Denmark, Poland and others. He also met in person at the White House with Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

A briefing for dozens of key lawmakers was planned for Tuesday afternoon, just before Obama was set to leave the White House for the speech against a military backdrop.

President Obama remains popular among Hispanics

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas — Barack Obama has erased George W. Bush's inroads among Hispanics, with these influential voters consistently giving the president exceptionally strong marks and the White House employing an aggressive strategy to keep it that way.

Obama's challenge is to ensure that Hispanics pledge allegiance to the Democratic Party for the 2010 elections and keep supporting him through his own likely 2012 re-election race while he tackles the divisive issue of repairing the nation's patchy immigration system.

Hispanics are the nation's fastest-growing minority group. The government projects they will account for 30 percent of the population by 2050, doubling in size from today and boosting their political power.

If Democrats build on Obama's gains, Texas and other traditionally Republican states with huge numbers of Hispan-

ics could be within reach in the future. That would mean deep trouble for a GOP that's already older, whiter, dwindling in numbers and lacking a standard bearer to make Hispanics a priority the way Bush did.

Yet while the latest Associated Press-GfK poll showed that a strong 68 percent of Hispanics approve of the job Obama's doing, maintaining such support is far from certain.

"Democrats speak to me, and this one in particular seems to be listening to what we need and what we want," said Tina Calhoun, 52, of Sacramento, Calif., who grew up in a family of Republicans but tends to vote Democratic. Still, she, like many others, isn't necessarily going to stick with Obama no matter what. "I want to give him a little more time," she said.

Indeed, it's unclear whether Hispanics will back Democrats to such strong degrees next fall when Obama is not on the ballot. Minorities and young voters who turned out in droves for Obama in 2008 didn't show up

this year for Democrats in the Virginia and New Jersey governors' races.

There's also a lifetime before Obama's expected re-election campaign, and he's promised to push immigration legislation before then, including an eventual path to citizenship for some 12 million people in the country illegally.

That's no easy task. The spectacular failure of such a measure in 2007 proved as much.

Immigration is a galvanizing issue on both the left and the right, with pitfalls for both parties. Republicans could alienate Hispanics if the vocal right again takes control of the debate with angry rhetoric.

Democrats risk seriously disillusioning Hispanics by inaction, delay or a piecemeal approach. A fight in Congress is assured.

"Our community will judge him based on how he delivers on the promise he made to see immigration reform early in his administration," said Janet Murguia, president of the National

Council of La Raza, suggesting the issue trumps everything else.

Much was made during the Democratic primary of Obama's perceived weakness among Hispanics but he won 67 percent of their vote in the general election to 31 percent for Republican John McCain. It was a huge jump from 2004 when Democratic nominee John Kerry won Hispanics by 53 percent to 44 percent for Bush, a Texan who focused heavily on Hispanics.

Obama didn't win Texas, hard-core GOP country for decades. But 20 percent of voters here were Hispanic, and, of those, Obama won 63 percent of their vote.

Obama dominated counties that include Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio, where huge numbers of Hispanics live, as well as heavily Hispanic counties along the Mexican border, where he increased Kerry's margins by double-digits — a warning sign for Republicans.

Overall, the president has watched his job approval rating

steadily decline since January; it stands at 54 percent in the latest AP-GfK poll. His support among Hispanics has largely held steady, with some surveys finding his backing among them as high as the low 70s — a figure even Republicans call impressive.

"They flirted with Republicans because they liked Bush. But the whole immigration fight really reversed all the gains Republicans had made," said Andrew Kohut, a nonpartisan pollster at the Pew Research Center. "There's no question that they are part of the Democratic base now."

Since Day 1, the White House has made a concerted daily effort to court Hispanics.

Obama chose Ken Salazar and Hilda Solis for his Cabinet, and then nominated Sonia Sotomayor for the Supreme Court as part of what officials call a record number of Hispanic appointments.

The president and administration officials have given numerous interviews to Hispanic

media.

The White House held the first known bilingual White House press briefing. It also partnered with Univision and Telemundo to broadcast White House events. And it has made several Web sites available in Spanish, including WhiteHouse.gov.

All of that has struck a chord with Lucy R. Moreno of Houston, 70.

"Finally, we're getting what's due to us. I'm pleased that he's following through on what he said he would do, like put Hispanics in positions of power," she said. "And he's hitting the right issues."

Mel Martinez, a Republican and former Florida senator, attributes Obama's standing among Hispanics both to his personal popularity as well as the GOP's failure to build upon Bush's gains in a serious way.

"It's a shame and it's something we're going to regret," he said. "To be a majority party, you must be focused on Hispanics."

South Africa makes plans to to treat all HIV-positive babies

DONNA BRYSON
Associated Press

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — South Africa announced ambitious new plans Tuesday for earlier and expanded treatment for HIV-positive babies and pregnant women, a change that could save hundreds of thousands of lives in the nation hardest hit by the virus that causes AIDS.

President Jacob Zuma — once ridiculed for saying a shower could prevent AIDS — was cheered as he outlined the measures on World AIDS Day. The new policy marks a dramatic shift from former President Thabo Mbeki, whose health minister distrusted drugs developed to keep AIDS patients alive and instead promoted garlic and beet treatments. Those policies led to more than 300,000 premature deaths, a Harvard study concluded.

The changes are in line with new guidelines issued a day earlier by the World Health Organization that call for HIV-infected pregnant women to be given drugs earlier and while

breast-feeding. By treating all HIV-infected babies, survival rates should also improve for the youngest citizens in South Africa, one of only 12 countries where child mortality has worsened since 1990, in part due to AIDS.

Zuma compared the fight against HIV, which infects one in 10 South Africans, to the decades-long struggle his party led against the apartheid government, which ended in 1994 with the election of Nelson Mandela in the country's first multiracial vote.

"At another moment in our history, in another context, the liberation movement observed that the time comes in the life of any nation when there remain only two choices: submit or fight," Zuma said.

"That time has now come in our struggle to overcome AIDS. Let us declare now, as we declared then, that we shall not submit."

Zuma was greeted with a standing ovation when he entered a Pretoria exhibition hall filled with several thousand people.

In some ways, Zuma is an unlikely AIDS hero. As his Zulu tradition allows, he has three wives — experts say having multiple, concurrent partners heightens the risk of AIDS.

And in 2006, while being tried on charges of raping an HIV-positive family friend, he testified he took a shower after extramarital sex to lower the risk of AIDS. He was acquitted of rape.

The one-time chairman of the country's national AIDS council may never live down the shower comment.

But Zuma has won praise for appointing Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi as his health minister. AIDS activists say Motsoaledi trusts science and is willing to learn from past mistakes.

South Africa, a nation of about 50 million, has an estimated 5.7 million people infected with HIV, more than any other country.

UNAIDS executive director Michel Sidibe, who took the podium shortly before Zuma, told the president: "What you do from this day forward will write, or rewrite, the story of

AIDS across Africa."

Zuma said in his speech broadcast across South Africa on state radio and television that the policy changes would take effect in April. They include treatment for all children under 1 year old, regardless of their level of CD4 cells, a measure of immune system health.

Patients with both tuberculosis and HIV will get treatment if their CD4 count is 350 or less, compared to 200 now, which means treatment would start earlier.

Pregnant women who are HIV-positive also would start treatment earlier. That is in line with the new WHO recommendations that doctors start HIV patients on drugs when their level of CD4 cells is about 350.

The expanded treatment was expected to be free, as it is now, although Zuma did not confirm that. He said all health institutions, not just specialist centers, would provide counseling, testing and treatment.

He also called on South Africans to get tested for HIV. But, contrary to speculation in recent days, he did not take an HIV test

Tuesday.

"I have taken HIV tests before and I know my status," he said. "I will do another test soon as part of this new campaign. I urge you to start planning for your own tests."

Kurt Fimhaber, who runs Right to Care, one of the largest private providers of AIDS treatment, counseling and testing in South Africa, said Zuma outlined "steps that aren't rhetoric — if they're implemented."

He said the burden would now be on the government and foreign donors to find the money to meet Zuma's ambitious goals.

On Tuesday, in response to a plea from Zuma, the United States announced it was giving South Africa \$120 million over the next two years for AIDS treatment drugs. That is in addition to \$560 million the U.S. has already pledged to give South Africa in 2010 for fighting AIDS.

Mark Heywood, executive member of the Treatment Action Campaign, an independent group that has challenged the South African government on

AIDS, said the Zuma speech marked a departure in thinking that would have a global impact. Heywood shared the stage with Zuma on Tuesday.

"It was a very good speech in all its aspects — the empathy he showed, what he said about prevention and the need to test for HIV was all very positive," Heywood said.

Zuma's government had earlier set a target of getting 80 percent of those who need AIDS drugs on them by 2011.

Setjhaba Ranthako brought his 4-year-old daughter Tshegofatso to hear Zuma's speech, saying education should start early.

"I've seen in President Zuma a person who's willing to listen, and say, 'Here I am, come with your views, and let's turn your views into an effective campaign to combat the spread' of AIDS," said Ranthako, who works with a group that raises awareness about AIDS among men.

The crowd rose to their feet when Zuma finished his speech. Then he danced along with a choir that sang: "Zuma, you are blessed."

Taking small steps toward a better world

In a world of digital advancement, not much has been done to keep people from harming themselves.

What I mean is that in all of our infinite wisdom, we have failed to teach ourselves about the importance of preserving our planets resources as the human race continues to become an ever-expanding presence on Earth.

It has been said by numerous experts that if people do not decrease their carbon footprint on the world, by 2030 we will have turned the Earth into a global warming crisis, and generated enough waste to stack up past the moon.

What people don't seem to realize is that it would take so little of them to simply give

up an hour or two and help recycle.

Things like plastic bottles of water, while loveable and convenient, sit in landfills for years and will continue to do so long after the person who trashed them is gone. Just think of how much bottled water you drink in a week, and multiply those empty bottles by 300 million, the amount of people in America. That's a lot of water bottles just piled up each week. Then multiply that by 52 weeks a year and now you have even more bottles.

If just half of these people would recycle, they could easily help prevent a developing world crisis. Recycling would not only help slow the progression of global warming, but could



DEXTER MULLINS

ful" journalism world, the impact of recycling is felt industry wide. We at the A&T Register are proud to print our newspaper on recycled materials, and we also recycle any additional papers that are left over each week.

This saves local landfills from adding hundreds of pounds

also make you some money and keep a steady supply of reusable materials for those that come after you.

Even in the "waste-

of paper to their contents each week. Many more of our features are digital and save on resources by never even needing paper.

If people would purchase and use recycled paper it would help to drastically save trees that are logged each year for paper. These are just a few of the major things that could be done if people would help with recycling.

The important thing is that people realize that we do not have an infinite supply of resources. If we do not begin to make a difference soon, we will be forced to find other ways to live, and those ways may not exist.

Some of my classmates and I worked on a service project

to help raise awareness of recycling on campus. We decided to start a campaign in collaboration with another group by designing fliers that will be posted sometime this week to help students find the different places on campus they can recycle. Additionally, a mass email was sent out to encourage the administration, faculty, and staff to help set up recycle bins in the various buildings on campus. There are also two editorials on the A&T Register's website including this one to help the community understand why it is important to recycle.

Just looking at the work it took to do what may seem like a small amount of work was surprising, but it helped me to realize that even the smallest ef-

orts can have a huge impact on campus. If more people would take small steps towards helping to recycle, the combined small impacts would turn into a larger effort for serious change.

Why should you recycle? Because it is your responsibility to protect the place in which you live, and if we don't we will be leaving a world of pollution behind for others. Landfills will overflow, and this can affect the quality of our air, water, and food.

The next time you begin to throw that soda can in the trash, or crumple up a wad of paper, think about how that small bag of trash will turn into mountains of waste. Remember the water bottles? Recycle. It will help us all live better lives.

Leave no reader behind

DARRELL WEST AND GROVER J. "RUSS" WHITEHURST
Brookings Institution

President Obama's back-to-school speech received attention. National media also reported how schools were responding to flu epidemics. But, despite its importance to our national interest, education simply does not generate the coverage given to other major issues.

We conclude in a new Brookings report that there is virtually no national coverage of education.

And of the education news that is reported, little relates to education policy or practice.

There was hardly any coverage of school reform, teacher quality, or other matters thought to be crucial for education progress.

Instead, most stories this year dealt with school finances, budget problems, crime, scandals, the H1N1 flu, and other episodic topics.

During the first nine months of 2009, only 1.4 percent of national news coverage focused on education issues.

This paucity of coverage is not new: Last year, only 0.7 percent of national news coverage was about education; in 2007 that figure hovered around 1 percent.

Community colleges fare especially poorly. Even though two-year colleges are major avenues of opportunity for many students and enroll 6.5 million students compared to 10.8 million for four-year colleges and universities they barely exist in today's media landscape.

Unfortunately, the quality and quantity of education news is not likely to improve.

The number of subscribers to print media is in steady decline. Education beat reporters are being laid off and not replaced. The financial impact on newsrooms is dire and has led to shrinking news coverage beyond just education.

These realities make it difficult for the public to be informed about the issues at stake in our education debates and to fully understand proposed policies designed to improve school performance.

During a time when the "No Child Left Behind" law is up for reauthorization and "Race to the Top" grant applications are due, the American public needs accurate, unbiased reporting on policies and reforms that will shape the education landscape and the future of a generation of students.

We conclude that it will take a concerted effort on the part of news organizations, education administrators, government leaders, school boards, parents, students and community leaders to provide requisite levels of information about education to the public.

Schools need to understand that communications is important to their education mission. Time spent to inform reporters, parents, and the community about what is happening inside schools is a good investment in promoting public understanding.

Students themselves can be part of the solution through student newspapers, social media, and other outreach activities. Students have an understanding of new technologies that often exceeds that of school administrators or parents.

In an era of citizen journalism and grass-roots communications, they can be powerful agents of public information and reform.

Government officials and education administrators must draw attention to education policy through events, forums and speeches that highlight noteworthy reforms and discuss ongoing problems and challenges.

Such efforts could prove especially beneficial to community colleges to boost their local, regional and national profile.

The media needs to change

its approach to education news. More reporting should be proactive and driven by substance to balance reactive episodic coverage.

Reporters could draw on education research, for instance, in the way that health care reporters use medical research.

We believe that national media outlets have a great deal to learn from how local reporters cover education. Local papers appear to be more substantive and to devote greater attention to education policy and school reform than national news organizations.

Publishers and editors should find ways to integrate quality education blogs and other forms of new media journalism into press coverage.

This could take the form of newspapers developing their own blogs and community talkbacks or providing links to education policy blogs that already exist, or encouraging readers and viewers to turn to their more extensive web coverage of education.

This could help fill the policy void left by staff cutbacks on education beats.

Finally, foundations and non-profit organizations should focus on finding way to encourage not only investigative journalism centered on educational institutions but also more, continuing beat coverage.

America's future and its success in educating its citizens are inextricably intertwined. Whether at the local, state, or federal level decisions about education are inherently political as elected school boards, legislative bodies, and executive branch officials carry out their responsibilities as representatives of the public that put them in office.

An engaged, informed public is a necessary component of progress. We can no longer afford to leave readers behind.



Changing the way we protect

DAVID ELKIND
The Free Lance-Star

SANDWICH, Mass. — Over the last half century there has been a significant shift in the focus of parents regarding the protection of their children. Up until the late 1950s parents were most concerned about protecting their children psychologically.

At the governmental level there was the Hayes Office, a censorship agency. It monitored and banned books, films and radio, and later television that used foul language or had overt sexuality and nudity. Within the family children were also shielded, from discussions of family problems and finances as well as family skeletons such as the drunk uncle or the crazy aunt.

Parents were less concerned about protecting their children physically. Children were told to go out and play.

If they got into a fight, scraped a knee, or tore their clothing, that was what children did. There was also a national playground organization, which provided many playgrounds many more than there are today that included basketball courts and baseball fields. There wasn't any fear about children walking long distances to these playgrounds or school.

All that changed with the social upheavals of the '60s, which resulted in the acceptance of divorce and of two-parent working and single-parent families.

These changes meant that the nuclear family (two parents, "two and a half" children) once the norm is now the least common family arrangement. The concept of protecting children psychologically from issues such as divorce and family finances was no longer possible. The sexual revolution, which accepted premarital sex, did away with the Hayes office and its control over the media. Foul language, sexual innuendo and overt sexual activity are now commonplace even on TV programs shown during family hours.

Perhaps because parents

could no longer protect their children psychologically, they turned to protecting them physically.

Car seats and belts, bike helmets, roller blade knee and elbow pads have become necessities. In some cities, it is against the law to play in the street.

Rather than letting today's children go out and play, they are enrolled in an organized sport, supervised by an adult, and played on a protected sports field. Instead of biking or walking to a friend's house, play dates are arranged, to which parents drive their children. The overprogramming and overscheduling of today's children is a reflection of shift from psychological to physical protection.

This, along with the advent of new technologies have effectively moved childhood indoors. Instead of playing a game of pickup baseball in a neighborhood lot, children play baseball on a computer indoors. Other outdoor activities have also declined, such as the amount of time and number of children who ride bikes. Parents are less concerned about their children getting sufficient exercise than they are about children playing safely indoors. The number of obese children and cases of type 2 diabetes in this population are up dramatically over past decades.

An unintended consequence of this concern for children's physical well-being is the elimination or curtailment of recess in many elementary schools around the country.

While this is ostensibly done for the purpose of providing more time for academics, this is not the real reason.

Research consistently shows that children who have time for recess do better academically than those who don't. The truth is that schools are worried about children getting hurt on the playground and that this will increase insurance costs due to the readiness of parents to bring suit for even the slightest injury.

I am not saying that we should not have children wear seat belts, helmets, and other safety equipment. Of course

they should. But by going far beyond what is necessary to protect children physically we are doing them harm just as we did when we went far beyond what was necessary to protect them psychologically. As parents we should protect our children psychologically and physically. Protection must be age appropriate.

It makes little sense, for example, to try to teach a preschooler how to protect himself or herself from a "stranger." Young children don't know what a stranger is and cannot be expected to defend themselves against an adult who would do them harm.

The same is true for older children. I live in a safe neighborhood on Cape Cod. Yet in the morning and afternoon on lovely days, I see rows of vehicles lined up, waiting for the bus to pick the children up or to drop them off. It is at most a mile from their homes to the bus stop and many of the young people are older children.

There is no reason why these young people should not walk to the bus stop and every reason why they should. While it is reasonable to drive a kindergarten or first-grader to the bus stop, it certainly is not except for bad weather, perhaps for a junior high school student.

The same holds true for psychological protection. If parents divorce, the children should be told, be assured that they will continue to be loved and cared for, and be informed about any changes that may be coming in the way of moving to a new house or school.

But children should not hear one parent put down the other, as they identify with both parents: An attack on a parent, is an attack on the child. Even in a nasty divorce, parents should respect one another in front of the children. When they become older, children will make their own assessment of their parents' qualities.

Parents have a responsibility to protect their children physically and psychologically. They also should use common sense about what is appropriate for their children during development.

The A&T Register wishes you

Happy Holidays &

A Happy New Year

We'll be back on Jan. 13, 2010

Lady Aggies win with buzzer-beater tip

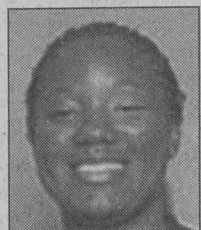
LAUREN MORGAN
Register Reporter

On Saturday night the North Carolina A&T Lady Aggies team defeated Yale 80-79 in a buzzer beater tip despite being shorthanded without Ta'Wuana Cook, Jaleesa Sams and Nakia DeBlanc.

Freshman Amber Calvin and sophomore Tierra Thomas led the Aggies (2-3,0-0) with 14 points apiece. Senior La-

mona Smalley added 13 points and seven rebounds. Five Aggies scored in double figures. Melissa Colborne led the Bull Dogs of Yale with 17 points, and Mady Gobrecht finished with 12 points and a game-best 10 rebounds.

Yale out-rebounded the Aggies 46-35 but a key rebound by Smalley would win the game for the Aggies. The game was close from the beginning. Within the first 20 minutes their



LAMONA SMALLEY

point leading the Aggies by

were six ties. In the first half of the game the Bull Dogs pulled a way and at one

nine but by half their lead was cut to three at 43-40.

Yale pulled away again at the start of the second half. With just over 10 minutes left in the game the Aggies were down 63-55. But the Aggies answered going on a 10-2 run to tie the game at 65 with just over 6 minutes left in the game. A layup from Melissa Colborne gave Yale the lead at 71-70 and they would go on to take a 77-72 lead with a little over three

minutes left to play.

With 16 seconds left in the game the Aggies were down 78-79. The defense from Yale caused a tough shot from Crystal Murdaugh but Smalley saved the Aggies with a critical rebound and a put back to beat the buzzer.

"The play was called for Murdaugh to pop out and hit the jump shot," said Coach Bibbs. "But Lamona always seems to be in the right place."

Florida's Dunlap charged with DUI

MARK LONG
Associated Press

Top-ranked Florida could be without one of its best pass rushers against No. 2 Alabama in the Southeastern Conference championship game.

Defensive end Carlos Dunlap was arrested early Tuesday and charged with driving under the influence, just days before the biggest game of the season.

"We are aware of the incident and are currently gathering more information," school spokesman Steve McClain said in a statement.

Coach Urban Meyer was expected to address the situation after practice Tuesday.

He could suspend Dunlap for Saturday's game in Atlanta.

Dunlap, a 20-year-old junior from North Charleston, S.C., was arrested at 3:25 a.m.

He was released on his own recognizance about six hours later during his initial appearance at the Alachua County Jail. Judge Mary Day Coker admonished Dunlap for underage drinking, and said he cannot possess alcohol, illegal drugs or prescription drugs that are not prescribed for him.

He was told not to drive a motor vehicle without a license, and if caught driving without a license, he would violate the terms of his release.

The judge released Dunlap without bond because he has no prior adjudications and no failures to appear in court.

Wearing a jail-issued, green-and-white striped jumpsuit, Dunlap spoke softly when asked questions and always replied "Yes, ma'am," to the judge.

According to Gainesville Police spokesman Keith Kameg, an officer was dispatched to check out reports of a reckless driver near campus.

When the officer spotted the car stopped at an intersection, he noticed the red 2000 Chrysler was not moving through several green lights.

The officer found Dunlap slumped over and asleep at the wheel.

The officer woke up Dunlap through a cracked window, but he "would only open his eyes momentarily and then fall back asleep," Kameg said.

The officer unlocked the door, put the car in park and turned off the ignition.

Dunlap got out and "was very groggy and had difficulty speaking and listening to instructions," Kameg said.

According to police, Dunlap had watery and bloodshot eyes, and there was a smell of alcohol.

Dunlap failed a field sobriety test, refused a breath test and was booked.

Dunlap, the defensive MVP of the Bowl Championship Series national title game in January, has started every game this season for the defending champs.

He has 35 tackles and is tied for the team lead with seven sacks.

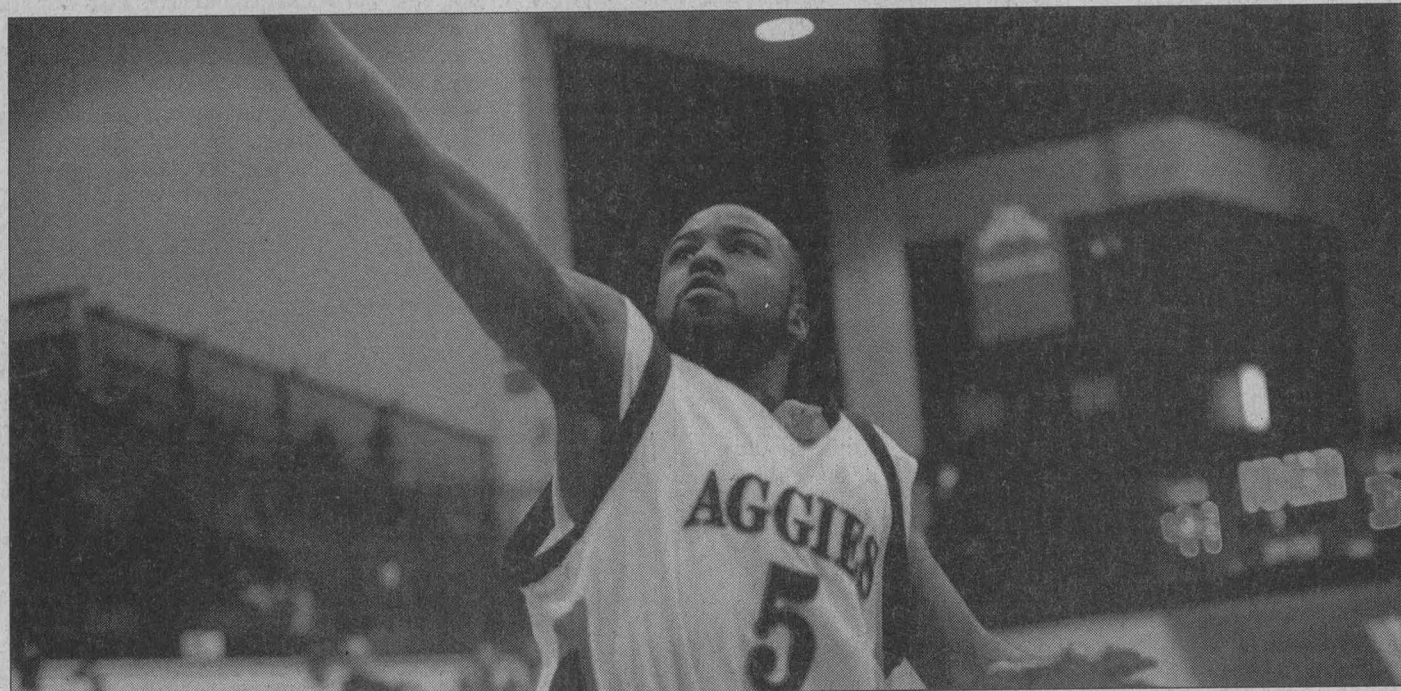


PHOTO BY KENNETH HAWKINS - THE A&T REGISTER

DWANE JOSHUA was 5-6 from 3-point range with 21 points in the Aggies loss to Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas last Saturday. He currently leads the team in scoring at 15.4 p.p.g.

LOST ON THE ROAD

The Aggies remain winless away and unbeaten at home

PRINCE ASKEW
Register Reporter

It was a tightly contested game last weekend when the men's basketball team traveled to Beaumont, Texas to play Lamar University. They came up on the short end of a 74-73 score when senior guard Tavarus Alston missed a 17-foot jump shot as time expired last Saturday.

The Aggies trailed by as many as 12 points in the first half but remained resilient on the road.

They took an 8-point lead with just under 8 minutes in the game after back-to-back 3-pointers from Alston and senior guard Dwane Joshua. Lamar fought back late in the half and eventually regained the lead off of two clutch free throws with 10 seconds left in the game. Those two points would eventually win the game.

"I am really just disappointed," said North Carolina A&T head coach Jerry Eaves.

"We had an excellent chance to win on the road, but we just didn't close them out. As the season progresses, we're go-

ing to have to learn how to close people out on the road."

Joshua finished the game with 21 points and made five out of his six three point attempts. For Alston, the final shot would have been the perfect way to cap a career-high 24 point game. Instead the Aggies dropped their third consecutive game. On Thanksgiving they were beaten by New Mexico State 84-68 in a battle of the Aggies. The New Mexico State Aggies gained their advantage at the free throw line where they got 32 shots compared to just 11 attempts for the NCAT Aggies.

Last Wednesday, North Carolina A&T lost by a similar margin to UTEP in El Paso, Texas. The score was 81-66 in a game where UTEP had five different players in double-digit scoring. Joshua led the Aggies in scoring and set his career high mark with 21 points on six of nine from three point range and he added six rebounds.

The previous two games were wins at home against Middle Tennessee St. on November 23 and Davis & Elkins on the 20th. The Aggies currently hold a 3-5 re-

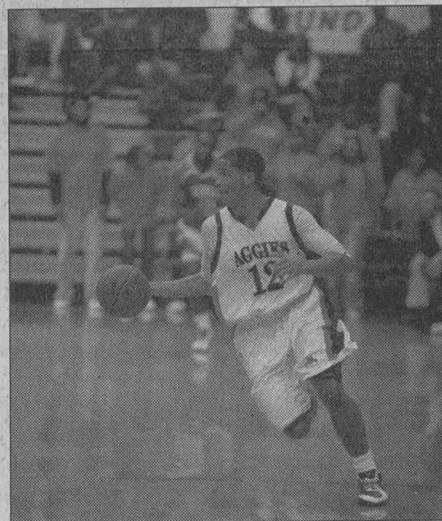


PHOTO BY KENNETH HAWKINS - THE A&T REGISTER

NIC SIMPSON played 29 minutes and finished with three points in the Aggies home win over Middle Tennessee State.

cord with all five on the road. They will travel and play at Norfolk State Saturday. Gametime is at approximately 6 p.m..

Mayhew named MEAC freshman of the year

DANIEL HENDERSON
Sports Editor

Despite sharing snaps with fellow freshman running backs Dontavious Payne and Tony Coles, Mike Mayhew was still named the MEAC rookie of the year by the MEAC coaches and sports information directors.

Mayhew rushed for 471 yards on 111 carries and six touchdowns on the year.

The last Aggie to rush for more touchdowns in their first season was Al Holland who ran for 12 in 1971.

It was also the most yards by a rookie running back since Barry Turner's 556 yards in 1990.

Mayhew redshirted his freshman year taking a backseat to former Aggie phenom Michael Ferguson, who is currently sixth on the all-time list.

The shared load between Mayhew, Payne and Coles combined for 941 total yards.

"Seeing those two battle for that starting position was one of the most pleasing elements of our season," said North Carolina A&T head coach Alonzo Lee. "Competition brings the best out of a man. We can game plan and coach all we want, but when your players have

to compete they have to get better. Having (Dontavious Payne) there certainly made Mayhew a better a player and vice versa."

Mayhew didn't stand alone amongst Aggies earning postseason honors.

Senior defensive end Jarell Herring was named to the MEAC defensive first-team along with sophomore defensive back Justin Ferrell.

Ferrell's counterpart, sophomore Quay Long, earned second-team honors.

The two cornerbacks combined for nine interceptions.

Ferrell was the only Aggie to get two of his picks in one game against in the season. He did so at Howard on Oct. 24 and the following week Long broke a school record with a 96-yard punt return against Bethune-Cookman.

Herring blocked three kicks and forced three fumbles while finishing the season second on the team in tackles with 59.

"All of these young men definitely received well-deserved honors today," said Lee.

"To have the rookie of the year in the conference, and to have two sophomores make the all-conference team shows we have a bright future ahead of us."

Williams named ACC's top rookie

JOEDY MCREARY
Associated Press

Thanks to Ryan Williams, Virginia Tech's rushing record for rookies didn't last very long.

The Hokies' record-setting running back was named Tuesday as the Atlantic Coast Conference's rookie of the year after a season in which he broke Darren Evans' 1-year-old school and conference record for rushing yards by a freshman.

"I haven't wrapped my brain around it yet," Williams said with a laugh.

Williams was the overwhelming choice as the ACC's offensive rookie of the year, receiving 34 votes from 40 voting members. Boston College linebacker Luke Kuechly, who had 29 votes, was named the top newcomer on defense, and no other player on either side of the ball received more than four votes.

The Hokies (9-3, 6-2) certainly didn't miss a beat with Williams. He rushed for 1,538 yards — the fourth-best single-season total in ACC history — to shatter Evans' mark, and he enters his bowl game 110 yards shy of Jones' 6-year-old school record for players from all classes.

"I don't really worry about records," Williams said. "I don't try to chase them. I don't try to break them."

AGGIES RUNDOWN

MEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
South Carolina State	0-0	3-0
Delaware State	0-0	3-1
Coppin State	0-0	4-2
Morgan State	0-0	4-2
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	2-3
North Carolina A&T	0-0	3-5
MD-Eastern Shore	0-0	1-5
Norfolk State	0-0	1-5
Howard	0-0	0-6
Florida A&M	0-0	0-7
Hampton	0-0	1-5

UPCOMING GAMES:

Saturday
vs. Norfolk State
Norfolk, Va.
6 p.m.

Dec. 13
vs. Northwestern
Chicago, Ill.
5 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TEAM	MEAC	OVR.
North Carolina A&T	0-0	2-1
Bethune-Cookman	0-0	3-2
Morgan State	0-0	3-2
Norfolk State	0-0	3-3
Delaware State	0-0	2-3
South Carolina State	0-0	2-3
Hampton	0-0	2-3
Florida A&M	0-0	2-4
Coppin State	0-0	1-3
Howard	0-0	1-4
MD-Eastern Shore	0-0	0-3

UPCOMING GAMES:

Saturday
vs. Norfolk State
Norfolk, Va.
4 p.m.

Dec. 15
LSU tournament
vs. Louisiana Lafayette
Baton Rouge, La.
4:30 p.m.

BOWLING

TEAM	OVR.
Delaware State	19-1
MD-Eastern Shore	17-3
Florida A&M	12-4
Norfolk State	10-6
Hampton	10-10
South Carolina State	8-8
Morgan State	9-11
Bethune-Cookman	7-9
Howard	5-15
North Carolina A&T	5-11
Coppin State	0-20

UPCOMING MEETS:

Sat. & Sun.
MEAC Southern division
Orangeburg, S.C.
TBA

AROUND SPORTS

TIGER FIASCO

THOUSAND OAKS, CALIF. (AP) — Tiger Woods still isn't talking. Now he's not playing, either. Woods withdrew Monday from his own golf tournament, citing injuries from a car crash near his Florida home. His decision comes as questions continue to mount regarding what exactly happened in the wee hours of the morning last Friday — questions that most certainly would have been asked of him had he played.

"I am extremely disappointed that I will not be at my tournament this week," Woods said. "I am certain it will be an outstanding event and I'm very sorry that I can't be there."

SERENA WILLIAMS FINED

NEW YORK (AP) — Serena Williams was fined a record \$82,500 for her tirade at a U.S. Open line judge and could be suspended from that tournament if she has another "major offense" at any Grand Slam in the next two years. Grand Slam administrator Bill Babcock's ruling was released Monday, and he said Williams faces a "probationary period" at tennis' four major championships in 2010 and 2011. If she has another "major offense" at a Grand Slam tournament in that time, the fine would increase to \$175,000 and she would be barred from the following U.S. Open. "But if she does not have another offense in the next two years, the suspension is lifted," Babcock said in a telephone interview from London.

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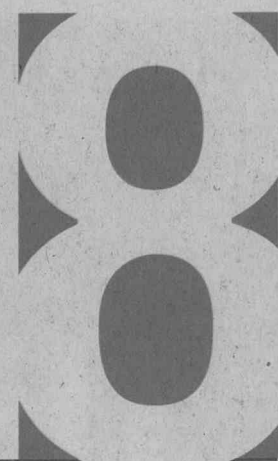
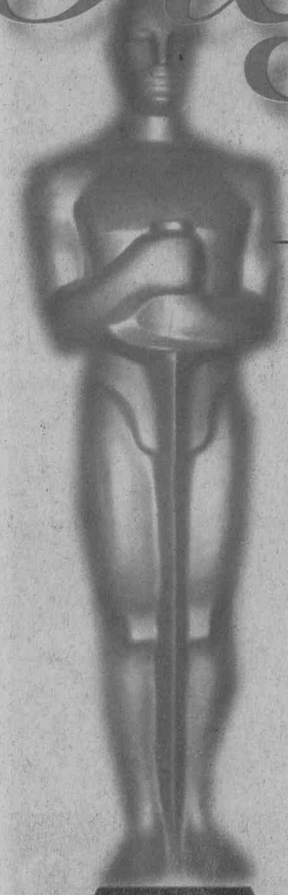


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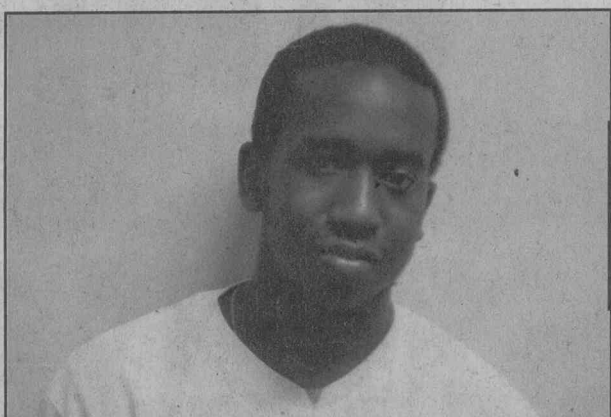
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The Fourth Annual Reggie Awards

As the year comes to an end, The Register honors the best of 2009 and looks back at some of the most memorable moments



STUDENT VISIONARY OF 2009



KEVIN WILSON
STUDENT PLAYWRIGHT

A junior broadcast production major from Durham, NC, Wilson wrote and directed the "Emmitt Till Story" which was his interpretation of the slain teenager's story. Wilson received funding from former Chancellor Battle and the Beta Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Aggies and surrounding residents packed Harrison Auditorium in April. The Emmitt Till event drew national attention and is considered one of the sparks of the Civil Rights Movement.

BEST MALE ATHLETE

C.J. BEATTY

BEST FEMALE ATHLETE

BRITTANIE TAYLOR-JAMES

BEST GAME WE ALMOST WON

MEN'S BBALL V. COPPIN

BEST GAME WE DID WIN

AGGIE-EAGLE CLASSIC

BEST WOMEN'S TEAM

LADY AGGIES BASKETBALL

BEST MEN'S TEAM

FLAG FOOTBALL WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP

BEST IN-GAME DISTRACTION

BLUE SQUAD CHEERLEADERS

BEST REASON TO LOVE A&T

OUR HISTORY

BEST REASON TO HATE A&T

THE DOWDY BUILDING

BEST ON CAMPUS EATERY



THE AGGIE SIT-IN

BEST PLACE FOR A DATE

CHEESECAKES BY ALEX

MOST CONTROVERSIAL MOMENT

SGA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

BEST RESTUARANT IN THE CITY

THAI PAN

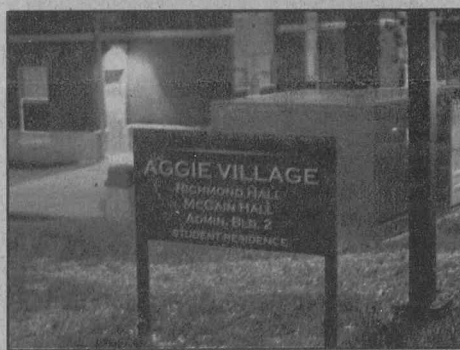
BEST ALBUM OF 2009

THE BLUEPRINT 3

BEST MOVIE OF 2009

HARRY POTTER 5

BEST RESIDENCE HALL



THE VILLAGE

BEST AMERICAN MOMENT

OBAMA'S INAUGURATION

BEST UNIFIED MOMENT

DENNIS HAYLE MEMORIAL

BEST DESSERT PLACE

GANACHE BAKERY

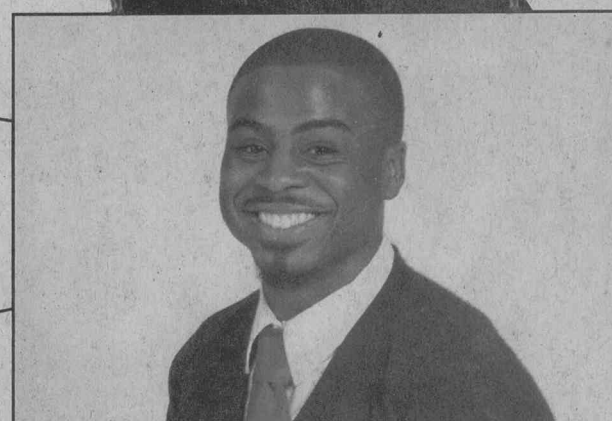
BEST BREAK OUT ARTIST

LADY GAGA

BEST DOCUMENTARY

BY THE PEOPLE

FACE OF CAMPUS



AUSTIN JAMES
MR. NORTH CAROLINA A&T

BEST PLACE TO PEOPLE WATCH



MEMORIAL STUDENT UNION

BEST AGGIE PRIDE MOMENT

LADY AGGIES MAKE NCAA

BEST PUBLIC ATTRACTION

NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER

BEST CAMPUS PROGRAM

THE EMMITT TILL PLAY

BEST COMEBACK ARTIST

MAXWELL

BEST TV SERIES

FLASH FORWARD

THE BEST OF 20 QUESTIONS

1. Did Michael Vick kill the Aggie Dog? 2. Should we leave the MEAC and try Pop Warner? 3. With Cooper Hall flooding, is FEMA going to be the headliner for homecoming? 4. If the kicker tried to kick himself off the team would he still miss? 5. Why do instructors that teach one credit courses go so hard? 6. Is it considered racist for the richest black women in the world to buy everyone chicken? 7. Why do the parking services boots look like they were made during Jim Crow? 8. Did anyone see the blue squad cheerleader whose skirt was SUPER small? 9. Did Rihanna just not want the cake? 10. How flammable is synthetic weave? 11. Did you use Halloween to dress up like a slut and call it a costume so you could get away with it? 12. Have you ever had an Elizabeth Lambert moment? 13. Do you find out you were "burning" through honesty box? 14. Does Taco Bell send its cooks to Mexico like Olive Garden sends its chefs to Italy? 15. Isn't the SGA Presidential Election really a battle between "light skinned" and Obama Jr.? 16. Why is a parking permit more than a car note? 17. Were your midterm grades so bad that you had to return your Homecoming clothes to finally buy your textbooks? 18. Should we dress up as a winning football team for Halloween? 19. How long are you willing to stand in line for free chicken? 20. After Kanye's outburst at the VMA's, can he be considered a "weapon of mass destruction?"